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Customer No. 26874
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Atty. Docket: END895.0511038

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Kenneth S. Wales et al.

: Paper No:

Serial No.

10/615,973

: Group Art Unit:

3721

Filed:

July 9, 2003

Examiner:

P. Durand

For:

SURGICAL INSTRUMENT INCORPORATING AN ARTICULATION

MECHANISM HAVING ROTATION ABOUT THE LONGITUDINAL AXIS

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action, dated February 24, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

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